

Message Text

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TAGS: EAID EFIN AORG IMF IBRD

SUBJ: WORLD BANK/IMF PROPOSALS TO INCREASE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS AND
ALTERNATES SALARIES

REF: (A) STATE 172490, (B) STATE 116378

1. WE TRANSMITTED SECRETARY SIMON'S LETTER ON IMF/IBRD SALARIES
TO FINANCE MINISTER RICHIE RYAN WHO IS IRISH GOVERNOR OF IMF/
IBRD. AT SAME TIME WE MADE ORAL PRESENTATION TO THOMAS O'COFAIGH,
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF FINANCE IN CHARGE OF IMF/IBRD AFFAIRS.

2. O'COFAIGH SAID THAT THE IRISH GOVERNMENT'S POSITION IS THAT
THERE SHOULD BE A FUNDAMENTAL REVIEW OF THE ROLES AND FUNCTIONS
OF THE EXECUTIVE AND ALTERNATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS WHICH WOULD
INCLUDE THE QUESTION OF PROPER LEVELS OF REMUNERATION. WE INVITED
O'COGAIGH'S ATTENTION TO THE OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS' REPORT ON
SALARIES (PARA 2, REF B). HE WAS NOT THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH
THE REPORT, BUT HE WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS A COMPARA-
TIVE SALARY STUDY AND NOT WHAT THE GOI WOULD REGARD AS A "FUNDAMENTAL
REVIEW."

3. O'COFAIGH WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE IRISH GOVERNMENT IN
GENERAL AGREES THAT INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS SHOULD NOT BE
GIVEN INFLATED SALARIES. IN THE PRESENT CASE AND PENDING A
FUNDAMENTAL REVIEW, GOI WOULD OPPOSE AN INCREASE IN THE REAL
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VALUE OF THE SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES IN QUESTION. HOWEVER, THE GOI

WOULD NOT OPPOSE A COST OF LIVING INCREASE WHICH WOULD MAINTAIN THE REAL VALUE OF THE REMUNERATION. O'COFAIGH ADDED THAT HE UNDERSTANDS THAT A COMPROMISE HAS BEEN PROPOSED WHEREBY A COST OF LIVING INCREASE ON BOTH SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES MIGHT BE GRANTED. IF A CONSENSUS APPEARS TO SUPPORT SUCH A COMPROMISE, THE GOI WOULD BE PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH IT.

4. DRAWING ON REF (A), WE WENT OVER US POSITION IN DETAIL AND UNDERScored SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH USG VIEWS THIS MATTER. O'COFAIGH UNDERTOOK TO CONVEY OUR REPRESENTATIONS TO GOVERNOR RYAN. CURLEY

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